



2009 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION CONNECTING AMERICA'S TREASURED PLACES

The Alaska Region (AKR) consists of 15 parks, which welcomed over 2,400,000 visitors in 2008. Visitor access is provided by 26 miles of paved roads and 285 miles of unpaved roads.

AKR is the largest region in NPS, and is rich in geographic diversity. Operations and maintenance is complicated by vast distances and short construction seasons. In large parks with long scenic roads (like Denali), construction is further complicated by piecemeal funding, which can result in inefficient construction practices (multiple inspections and design phases, for example).



During SAFETEA-LU, AKR had a funding obligation rate of 99%, and completed 25 projects in 5 parks, while rehabilitating/reconstructing 18 miles of road and 4 bridges.

To prepare for NPS' 100th Anniversary, AKR is focusing on preserving existing transportation facilities and services, with three priorities:

- Improve Roads and Bridges
- Optimize Multi-modal Transportation Systems
- Complete a Long Range Transportation Plan

AKR is proud of its accomplishments during SAFETEA-LU. To further improve planning, asset management and system operations, AKR launched a pilot Long Range Transportation Plan in 2009. The 20-year plan will be completed in 2011, and will include a 5-year program for preserving roads, bridges, and parking lots, and allocating new funding for trails, and communications infrastructure such as Intelligent Transportation Systems.



AKR PRIORITY PROJECTS: 2010 – 2015

Complete Road Reconstruction

Denali National Park



Multi-Modal Transportation Systems

Multiple Parks



Long-Range Transportation Plan

Legally-mandated process will engage AKR with the Alaska Department of Transportation, Metropolitan Planning Organizations and other regional transportation partners. The outcome will be a 20-plan with a vision and goals for transportation projects, and a 5-year prioritized program of projects.



Pavement Preservation Program

Multiple Parks. The life cycle of pavement is greatly enhanced by routine pavement treatments.



Small Park Initiatives

Multiple Small Parks



For more information, read the NPS Reauthorization Resource paper at:

www.nps.gov/transportation/roads/library/NPS_reauthorize_120807.pdf